

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6953

BILL NUMBER: SB 242

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 30, 2008

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Notice of Lobbyist Contact with Legislators/Staff.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Delph

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: ☒ **GENERAL**
☐ **DEDICATED**
☐ **FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires a lobbyist to file weekly legislative contact reports with the Lobby Registration Commission. It requires a legislative contact report to contain: (1) the name of each member of the General Assembly, officer of the General Assembly, or employee of the General Assembly with whom the lobbyist has had any communication to influence any legislative action; (2) whether the lobbyist communicated with the Governor or any member of the staff of the office of the Governor regarding any legislative action; and (3) for each identified communication, the date and time of the communication and the nature of the legislative action that was the subject of the communication. The bill also requires legislative contact reports to be filed electronically and be available online the next day after the reports are required to be filed.

Effective Date: July 1, 2009.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Lobby Registration Commission:* This bill requires lobbyists to file legislative contact reports regarding all communication with legislative contacts each Monday, and requires that the Lobby Registration Commission provide these reports electronically each Tuesday. This provision will begin on the Monday before Organization Day and end on the third Monday following the adjournment of the session. These provisions will require additional staff time for processing and storing of reports. The Commission currently employs two full-time staff and one part-time director. In order to meet the requirements of the bill, the Commission may need to hire additional staff.

There will be start up costs associated with filing the reports electronically. Currently, lobbyists may file activity reports electronically, but it is not required. Computer programming would be necessary to provide electronic filing for lobbyists to submit legislative contact reports on the Lobby Registration Commission's

web site.

The funds and resources required above could be supplied through a variety of sources, including the following: (1) existing staff and resources not currently being used to capacity; (2) existing staff and resources currently being used in another program; (3) authorized, but vacant, staff positions, including those positions that would need to be reclassified; (4) funds that, otherwise, would be reverted; or (5) new appropriations. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy the requirements of this bill will depend upon legislative and administrative actions.

Background Information - Currently, there are 1,200 registered lobbyists.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Lobby Registration Commission.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Amy Moore, Lobby Registration Commission, 317-232-9860.

Fiscal Analyst: Jessica Harmon, 317-232-9854.